

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, UNICEF

SUBJECT: UNICEF EXECUTIVE BOARD: DRAFT DECLARATION

FOLLOWING IS REVISED TEXT OF DRAFT DECLARATION SUBMITTED BY
PHILIPPINE DEL IN RESPONSE TO HENRY LABOUISSSE'S SUGGESTION.
INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED.

QTE: 20 MAY 1974

STATEMENT OF AN EMERGENCY FOR CHILDREN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
AS A RESULT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CRISIS DECISION OF
THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HAS REVIEWED THE SITUATION OF THE
400-500 MILLION CHILDREN IN COUNTRIES ADVERSELY AFFECTED
BY THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CRISIS WHICH PROMPTED THE CALLING
OF THE SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE
BOARD CONCLUDES THAT AN EMERGENCY SITUATION FACES MANY OF
THOSE CHILDREN AND BELIEVES THAT IT IS THE BOARD'S DUTY TO
CALL THIS DANGER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY.

2. THE BOARD HAS LONG BEEN DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION
OF THE CHILDREN IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD, PARTICULARLY IN THE
POOREST COUNTRIES WHERE MILLIONS LIVE IN POVERTY. IT
CONSIDERS THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS, THERE
IS NOW GRAVE DANGER OF A FURTHER DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION
OF CHILDREN IN MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING POSSIBILITIES OF MORE
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WIDE-SPREAD MALNUTRITION AND FAMINE. IT FEARS THAT MANY

COUNTRIES WILL BE IN DANGER OF HAVING TO REDUCE ALREADY MINIMAL BASIC SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, AFFECTING NOT ONLY THEIR NUTRITION BUT ALSO THEIR HEALTH, EDUCATION AND, MORE GENERALLY, THEIR PROSPECTS FOR LIFE.

3. BEARING IN MIND THAT THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY IN DEALING WITH THE SITUATION OF THEIR CHILDREN FALLS UPON THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THEMSELVES AND THAT THEIR TOTAL NEEDS WILL REQUIRE THE FULL CO-OPERATION OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY, THE BOARD DECIDES THAT AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE FOR UNICEF IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD INCLUDE:

A) IMMEDIATE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENTS IN THE PROMOTION OF NATIONAL FOOD AND NUTRITION POLICIES, THE PRODUCTION AND STORAGE OF FOOD PARTICULARLY AT THE VILLAGE LEVEL, THE EDUCATION OF PARENTS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS ON CHILD NUTRITION, SUPPORT TO SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING SCHEMES, AS WELL AS THE RAPID STRENGTHENING AND ENLARGEMENT OF BASIC HEALTH SERVICES AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD;

B) HELP TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO MONITOR THE OVERALL SITUATION OF THEIR CHILDREN, AND TO DEVELOP ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN WHICH MIGHT BE ASSISTED THROUGH UNICEF AS WELL AS MANY OTHER SOURCES OF AID;

C) HELP IN DISSEMINATING INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN TO THE WIDEST POSSIBLE AUDIENCE;

4. THE BOARD REQUESTS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO BRING THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN ADVERSELY AFFECTED COUNTRIES TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME AS SOON AS IT IS CONSTITUTED. IT ALSO AUTHORIZES THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO PARTICIPATE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME AND TO TAKE ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF APPROVED BOARD POLICIES.

5. THE BOARD APPEALS TO ALL GOVERNMENTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND OTHER POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS, AS WELL AS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, TO ENLARGE THEIR SUPPORT OF PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN IN ADVERSELY AFFECTED COUNTRIES, WHETHER BILATERALLY, THROUGH THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME TO UNCLASSIFIED

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BE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THE RECENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION, OR DIRECTLY TO UNICEF, AS APPROPRIATE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. THE BOARD INVITES ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNICEF FAMILY - THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, THE SECRETARIAT, THE UNICEF NATIONAL COMMITTEES, ACCREDITED NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, AS WELL AS PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN UNICEF - TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS DECISION IN ALL WAYS

APPROPRIATE FOR THEM.

7. THE BOARD REQUESTS THAT THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
ENDORSE THIS DECISION IN AN APPROPRIATE WAY AT ITS 57TH
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